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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/833,432	04/12/2001	Lance C. Shumaker	13DV13932	5277

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EXAMINER

NAHAR, QAMRUN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2124

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/833,432	SHUMAKER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Qamrun Nahar	2124	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/16/01</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-14 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cohen (U.S. 6,178,430).

Per Claim 1:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- **a method for determining a module to be added to an Intranet portal** ("The present invention downloads the standards document to a network server and connects the standards document into a HTML document. The HTML document is then available for display by web browsers on user computers connected to the network. The present invention additionally provides to users various management services that allow users to request changes to the standards document and to request exceptions, or variances, from the standards in order to perform specific tasks in a way that would be otherwise precluded by the standards. Users may schedule networked conferences for discussing proposed changes and exceptions and may vote

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on proposed changes and exceptions by using management services provided by the present invention.” in column 3, lines 1-14)

- **proposing, by a user, a module to be added to an Intranet portal; adding the proposed module to a list of suggested modules** (“Change Requests table”, column 7, lines 58-67 to column 8, lines 1-16)

- **displaying the list of suggested modules to a user of the Intranet portal; selecting, by a user, a module from the list of suggested modules; indicating, by a user, support for the selected module; including the indication of support for the selected module in a cumulative indication of support for the selected module** (“Votes table”, column 8, lines 55-65; and column 14, lines 55-67 to column 15, lines 1-26)

- **and determining, by an administrator, a module to be added to the Intranet portal from the list of suggested modules using the cumulative indication of support for each suggested module in the list of suggested modules** (column 15, lines 13-20).

Per Claim 2:

The Cohen patent discloses:

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- wherein the step of proposing a module further comprises the steps of: providing a name for the proposed module; and providing a description for the proposed module (column 7, lines 58-67 to column 8, lines 1-16; column 15, lines 64-67 to column 16, lines 1-12).

Per Claim 3:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- further comprising the step of reviewing, by a user, the description of the selected module (column 8, lines 55-65).

Per Claim 4:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- wherein the step of reviewing the description of the selected module comprises the step of opening a separate window that includes the description of the selected module (column 16, lines 26-32).

Per Claim 5:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- wherein the step of indicating support further comprises the step of selecting, by a user, a button associated with the selected module (column 16, lines 19-26).

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Per Claim 6:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- wherein the indication of support for the selected module is a vote for the selected module (column 16, lines 19-26).

Per Claim 7:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- wherein the cumulative indication of support for the selected module is a sum of all the votes for the selected module (column 15, lines 13-20).

Per Claim 8:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- further comprising the step of displaying the sum of all votes for the selected module (column 15, lines 13-20).

Per Claims 9-10 & 12-13:

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These are computer program product versions of the claimed method discussed above (claims 1-4, respectively), wherein all claim limitations also have been addressed and/or covered in cited areas as set forth above. Thus, accordingly, these claims are also anticipated by Cohen.

Per Claim 11:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- wherein the update for the proposed module is one of adding the proposed module, changing the proposed module and removing the proposed module (column 7, lines 58-67 to column 8, lines 1-16; column 15, lines 64-67 to column 16, lines 1-12).

Per Claim 14:

The Cohen patent discloses:

- further comprising computer instructions for executing the step of supplementing, by a user, the description of the update for the selected module with additional comments, the additional comments being added to the description of the update for the selected module for review by subsequent users (column 16, lines 7-12).

Per Claims 17-20:

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These are computer program product versions of the claimed method discussed above (claims 5-8, respectively), wherein all claim limitations also have been addressed and/or covered in cited areas as set forth above. Thus, accordingly, these claims are also anticipated by Cohen.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohen (U.S. 6,178,430) in view of Sprague (U.S. 5,870,744).

Per Claim 15:

The rejection of claim 10 is incorporated, and further, Cohen does not explicitly teach wherein the indication of support for the selected module is a rating of the update for the selected module. Sprague teaches wherein the indication of support for the selected module is a rating of the update for the selected module (column 6, lines 57-65).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the computer art at the time of the invention was made to modify the computer program product disclosed by Cohen to include wherein the indication of support for the selected module is a rating of the update for the selected module using the teaching of Sprague. The modification would be obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to get a degree of support for a selection.

Per Claim 16:

The rejection of claim 15 is incorporated, and Sprague further teaches wherein the cumulative indication of support for the selected module is an average of all the ratings for the selected module (column 7, lines 10-17).

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Qamrun Nahar whose telephone number is (703) 305-7699 *if calling before October 28, 2004*; otherwise *if calling on or after October 28, 2004*, then the telephone number is (571)272-3730. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00 AM to 6:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki, can be reached on (703) 305-9662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or processing is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

QN

September 13, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several vertical strokes followed by a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

ANIL KHATRI
PRIMARY EXAMINER